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THE
Earle of Gowries con-
ſpiracie againſt the Kings Maie-
ſtie of Scotland.

At Saint Iohn-ſtoun vpon Tueſday the fift of Auguſt. 1600.

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A Discourse of the vnnaturall and *vile conspiracie, attempted against his* Maiesties person at Saint Iohnstoun vpon the fift day of August being Tuesday 1600.

HIs Maiestie hauing his residence at Falkland, & being daily at the buck-hunting (as his vse is in that season) vppon the fifth day of August, being Tuesday, he raise out to the Parke, betweene fyre and seuen of the clocke in the morning, the weather being wonderfull pleasant and seasonable. But before his Maiesty could leape on horse back, his Highnesse being now come downe by the Equerie: all the huntsmen with the hownds attending his Maiestie on the green, and the Court making to their horses, as his Highnesse selfe was: Walter Alexander Ruthwen second brother to the late earle of Gowrie being then lighted in the towne of Falkland, hasted him fast downe to ouertake his Maiestie before his on-leaping, as he did. Where meeting his Highnesse, after a very lowe curtesie, bowing his head vnder his Maiesties knee, (although he was neuer wont to make so lowe courtesie) drawing his Maiestie aparte, he beginnes to discourse vnto him (but with a very deiected countenaunce, his eies euer fixed vpon the earth) howe that it chaunced him in the euening before, to be walking abroad about ỹ fields, taking the ayre solitarie alone, without the Towne of Saint Iohnstoun, where his present dwelling with the Lorde his

brother was, ſchere by accident affirmed to haue recountred a baſe like fellow, vnknowne to him, with a cloke caſt about his mouth: whome as he enquired his name, and what his errand was to be paſſing in ſo ſolitarie a part, being from al waies: the fellow became on a ſodaine ſo amazed, and his tongue ſo faultered in his mouth, that vppon his ſuſpitious behauiour he begonne more narrowly to look vnto him and examine him: and perceiuing that there appeared ſome thing to be hid vnder his cloke, he did caſt by the lappes of it, and ſo finds a great wide pot to be vnder his arme, all full of coyned gold in great peeces · aſſuring his maieſty that it was in very great quantity. Upõ the ſight wherof (as he affirmed) he tooke backe the fellow with his burthen to the towne, where he priuatly, without the knowlege of any man, tooke the felow, and bound him in a priuy derned houſe: and after, locked many dores vpon him, and left him there and his pot with him, and had haſted himſelfe out of ſaint Iohnſtoun that day by foure howers in the morning, to make his maieſtie aduertiſed thereof, according to his bound dutie: earneſtly requeſting his maieſtie with all diligence and ſecreſie that his maieſtie might take order therewith, before any knew therof: Swearing and proteſting, that he had yet concealed it from all men: yea, from the earle his own brother. His maieſties firſt anſwere was (after thanking him for his good will) that it could not become his maieſty to meddle any waies in that matter, ſince no mans treaſure that is a free and lawful ſubiect can, by the law appertaine vnto the King, except it be found hid vnder the earth, as this was not. Wherevnto he anſwered, that the fellow confeſſed vnto him that he was going to haue hid it vnder the ground, but coulde not take leaſure at that time to enquire any further of him. Wherevnto his maieſtie replyed, that there was great difference betwixt a deede, and the intention of a deede: his intention to haue hid it, not being alike as if it had beene found already hidde. Maiſter Alexanders

anſwere was, that hee thought his Maieſtie ouer ſcrupulous in ſuch a matter, tending ſo greatly to his maieſties profite: and that if his maieſtie deferred to meddle with it, that it might be, that the Lord his brother, and other great men might meddle with it, and make his maieſtie the more adoe. Whereupon the King beginning to ſuſpect that it had beene ſome forraine gold brought home by ſome Ieſuites for practiſing Papiſtes (therewith to ſtirre vp ſome new ſedition as they haue oftentimes done before) inquired of the ſaid maiſter Alexander, what kinde of coyne it was, and what a fellowe he was that carried it. His anſwere was, that ſo farre as he could take leiſure to ſee of them, that they ſeemed to bee forraine ſtrokes of coyne, and although the fellowe, both by his language and faſhions ſeemd to be a Scots fellow, yet he could neuer remember that he had ſeene him before. Theſe ſpeaches increaſed his maieſties ſuſpition, that it was forraine coyne brought in by ſome practiſing Papiſtes, and to be diſtributed into the countrie, as is before ſayd: And that the fellow that carryed it, was ſome Scots Prieſt, or Seminarie ſo diſguiſed, for the more ſure tranſporting thereof.

Whereupon his maieſtie reſolued that he would ſend backe with the ſaid maiſter Alexander, a ſeruant of his owne, with a warrant to the Prouoſt and Bailiffes of Saint Iohnſton, to receiue both the fellow and the money at maiſter Alexanders hand, and after they had examined the fellow, to retaine him and the treaſure, till his maieſties further pleaſure was knowne.

Whereat the ſayd maiſter Alexander ſtirred marueloully: affirming and proteſting, that if eyther the Lorde his brother, or the Bailiffes of the towne were put on the counſaile thereof, his maieſtie would gette a verie badde count made to him of that treaſure, ſwearing that the great loue and affection hee bare vnto his Maieſtie, had made him to preferre his Maieſtie in this caſe, both vnto himſelfe and his brother. For the which ſeruice hee humbly

bly craued that recompence, that his maieſty would take the paynes once to ryde thether, that he might be the firſt ſeer thereof himſelfe: which being done, he wouldde remit to his Maiefties diuine honourable diſcretion, how farre it would pleaſe his Maieſtie to conſider vpon him for that ſeruice.

His Highneſſe being ſtricken in great admiration, both of the vncouthneſſe of the tale, and of the ſtrange and ſtupide behaviour of the Reporter: and the Court being already horſed, wondring at his Maieſties ſo long ſtay with that gentleman, the morning being ſo faire, the game already found, and the huntſmen ſo long ſtaying in the fields on his Maieſtie: he was forced to breake off, only with theſe words, that he could not now ſtay any longer from his ſport, but that he would conſider of the matter, and at the end of his chaſe, giue him a reſolute anſwere, what order he would take therein. Whereupon his Maieſtie parted in haſte from him towards the place where the game was.

Maiſter Alexander parting from his Maieſtie very diſcontent, that indelayedly he raide not to ſaint Iohnſtoun as he deſired him: proteſting that his Maieſtie would not find euery day ſuch a choiſe of hunting, as he had offered to him, and that he feared that his Maieſties long delay and ſlowneſſe of reſolution, would breede leaſure to the fellow, who was lying bound, to cry, or make ſuch dinne, as would diſappoynt the ſecrecie of that whole purpoſe, and make both the fellow and the treaſure to bee meddled with, before any word could come from his Maieſty: as alſo, that his brother wold miſſe him, in reſpect of his abſence that morning, which if his maieſty had pleaſed to haſte, he might haue preuented: arriuing there in the time of his brothers & the whole townes being at the ſermon: whereby his Maieſtie might haue taken ſuch ſecret order with that matter, as he pleaſed, before their out-comming from the church. But his Maieſtie, without any further anſwering him, leaping on his horſe backe, and riding to the dogs, where they were beginning to hunt, the

ſaid maiſter Alexander ſtayed ſtill in that place where he left his Maieſtie: and having two men with him, appointed by the Earle his brother, to carry backe vnto him the certayne newes in all haſte, of his Maieſties comming (as hereafter more particularly ſhall in this ſame diſcourſe be declared)

He directed the one of them called Andrew Henderſon, Chamberlaine to the ſaide Earle, to ride in all haſte to the Earle, commanding him, as he loued his brothers honor, that he ſhould not ſpare for ſpilling of his horſe, and that he ſhould aduertiſe the Earle, that he hoped to moue his Maieſtie to come thither, and that he ſhould not yet looke for him, the ſpace of three houres thereafter, becauſe of his Maieſties hunting, adding theſe wordes: Pray my Lord my brother to prepare the dinner for vs. But his Maieſtie was no ſooner ridden vppe to a little hill aboue the little woodde, where the dogges were layde on in hunting: but that notwithſtanding the pleaſant beginning of the chaſe, he could not ſtay from muſing and wondering vpon the newes. Whereupon, without making any body acquainted with this purpoſe, finding Iohn Neſmith Chirurgian, by chance riding beſide him, his Maieſtie directed him backe to bring maiſter Alexander with him: Who being brought vnto his maieſtie, and hauing newly directed, as ſaid is, one of his men that was with him back to my Lord his brother, his Maieſtie vnknowing or ſuſpecting that any man liuing had come with him, then tolde him that he had beene aduiſing with himſelfe, and in reſpect of his laſt wordes ſo earneſt with him, he reſolued to ride thither for that errand in his owne perſon, how ſone the chaſe was ended, which was already begunne. Like as his Maieſtie, vpon the very ending of theſe wordes, did ride away in the chaſe, the ſaid maiſter Alexander following him at his heeles: no other creature being with his Highnes, but he, and Iohn Hamilton of Grange, one of his Maieſties maiſter ſtabliers, the reſt of the Court being all before in the chaſe, his Maieſtie onely being caſt backe vppon the ſaying to ſpeake with

maiſter

maiſter Alexander, as is before ſaid.

The chaſe laſted from about ſeauen of the clocke in the morning, vntill eleuen, and more, being one of the greateſt and ſoreſt chaſes that euer his maieſty was at: all which time the ſayde maiſter Alexander was (for the moſt part) euer at his maieſties backe, as is ſayd. But there neuer was any ſtop in the chaſe, or ſo ſmall a delay, that the ſayde maiſter Alexander omitted to round his maieſty, earneſtly requeſting him to haſten the end of the hunting, that he might ride the ſoner to ſaint Iohn-ſtoun. So as at the death of the bucke, his maieſty, not ſtaying vpon the curry of the Diere, (as his vſe is) ſcarcely took time to alight, awayting vpon the comming of a freſh horſe to ride on, the greatnes of the chaſe hauing wearied his horſe.

But the ſaid maiſter Alexander would not ſuffer the king to ſtay in the parke where the Bucke was killed, while his freſh horſe which was already ſent for, was brought out of the equery to him, (although it was not two ſlight ſhot off betwixt the parte where the Bucke was killed, and his maieſties equery:) but with very importunity forced his maieſty to leap on agayne vpon that ſame horſe, that he had hunted all the day vpon, his freſh horſe being made to galloy a mile of the way to ouertake him: his maieſty not ſtaying ſo much as vpon his ſword, nor while the duke and the earle of Marre, wyth diuerſe other Gentlemen in his company had changed their horſe: Onely ſaying vnto them, that hee was to ride to ſaint Iohn-ſtoun to ſpeake with the earle of Gowry, and that he would be preſently backe againe before euen.

Wherevppon ſome of the Court galloyed backe to Falkel and as faſt as they couldo, to chaunge their horſe, but could not ouertake his Maieſtie, vntill hee came within foure miles of ſaint Iohn-ſtoun. Others rid forward with their horſes, wearied as they were, whereof ſome were compelled to alight by the way, and had they not both refreſhed

their

their horſes, fed them, & giuen them some gräſſe by the way, they had not caried thē to S. Iohnſtoun. The cauſe of his maieſties ſeruants following ſo faſt, vndeſired by him, being only grounded vpon a ſuſpition they had conceiued that his maieſties intention of riding, was for the apprehenſiō of the maſter of Olephant, one who had late laid downe a vile & prowd oppreſſion in Angus. For repairing of the which, they thoght that his maieſtie had ſome purpoſe for his apprehenſion.

But the ſayde maiſter Alexander ſeing the duke and the earle of Mar, with diuerſe of the court, getting freſh horſe for following of his maieſtie, earneſtly deſired him that he wold publiſh to his whole traine, that ſince he was to returne the ſame euening, as is afore ſaid, they needed not to follow him, eſpecially that he thought it mæteſt his Maieſty ſhould ſtay the duke and the earle of Mar to follow him, & that he ſhould only take three or foure of his own ſeruants with him, affirming, that if any nobleman followed him, he could not anſwere for it, but that they would marre that whole purpoſe. Whereupon his maieſtie halfe angry, replied, that he would not miſtruſt the duke nor the earle of Mar in a greater purpoſe than that, and that he could not vnderſtand what hinderance any man could make in that errand.

But theſe laſt ſpeeches of maiſter Alexanders, made the King beginne to ſuſpect what it ſhould meane: whereuppon many and ſundry thoughts beganne to enter into the kings mind: yet his maieſtie could neuer ſuſpect any harme to be intended againſt his Highneſſe by that yong Gentleman, with whom his maieſtie had beene ſo well acquainted, as he had not long before bin in ſuite to be one of the Gentlemen of his chamber: ſo as, the farthеſt that the kings ſuſpition could reach to, was, that it might be, that the earle his brother had handled him ſo hardly, that the yong gentleman being of a hie ſpirit, had taken ſuch diſpleaſure, as he was become ſomewhat beſide himſelfe, which his maieſtie coniectured, as well by his raiſed and vncouth ſtaring, and continual penſiuenes

all the time of the hunting: as likewiſe, by ſuch ſtrange ſorte of vnlikely diſcourſes, as are already mentioned.

Whereuppon the king toke occaſion to make the Duke of Lennox acquainted with the whole purpoſe, enquiring of him very earneſtly what he knew of that yong gentlemans nature, being his brother in law: and if he had perceiued him to be ſubiect to any high apprehenſion, his maieſty declaring his ſuſpition plainly to the ſaid Lord Duke, that he thought him not well ſetled in his wits: alwayes deſiring my Lorde Duke not to faile to accompany him into that houſe, where the alleadged fellow and treaſure was.

The Lorde Duke wondered much at that purpoſe, and thought it very vnlikely: yet he affirmed, that he could neuer perceiue any ſuch appearance in that gentlmans inclination. But maiſter Alexander perceiuing his maieſties priuie conference with the Duke, & ſuſpecting the purpoſe as it appeared, came to the king, requeſting his maieſty very earneſtly, hee ſhoulde make none liuing acquainted with that purpoſe, nor ſuffer none to go with his maieſty where he ſhould conuoy him, but himſelfe only, vntill his maieſty had once ſeene the fellowe and the treaſure: whereunto his maieſty halfe laughing, gaue anſwer, that he was no good teller of money, and behoued therefore to haue ſome to helpe him in that errand: his reply was, that he would ſuffer none to ſee it but his maieſties ſelfe at the firſt, but afterwardes he might call in whom he pleaſed.

Theſe ſpeeches did ſo increaſe his ſuſpition, that then hee beganne directly to ſuſpect ſome treaſonable deuiſe. Yet many ſuſpitions and thoughts ouerwhelming one euery one an other in his mind, his maieſtie could reſolue vpon no certain thing, but rode further on his iourney, betwixt truſt and diſtruſt, being aſhamed to ſeem to ſuſpect, in reſpect of the cleanneſſe of his maieſties owne conſcience, except he had found ſome greater ground. Maiſter Alexander ſtill preaſing the king to ride faſter, though his owne horſe was ſcarcely able

to

to keepe company with the king for wearines, hauing ridden with him al the chaſe before. The king being come two mile from Falkland, maiſter Alexander ſtayed alittle behinde the king in the way, and poſted away the other ſeruant Andrew Ruthwen to the earle his brother, aduertiſing him how farre the king was on his way to come thither. Then how ſone ſoeuer the king came within a mile of Iohnſtoun, he ſayde to his maieſty, that he would poſt in before, to aduertiſe the erle his brother of his maieſties cõming: who at his incomming to him, was ſitting at the midſt of his dinner, neuer ſæming to take knowledge of the kings comming, til his brother told it him, notwithſtanding that two of his ſeruants had aduertiſed him thereof before. And imediately vpon his brothers report, riſing in haſte from the bord, and warning al the ſeruants and friendes to accompany him to mæte his maieſtie, who met him with three or foure ſcore men, at the end of the Inche, his maieſties whole traine, not excæding the number of fiftæne perſons, and all wythout any kinde of armour, except ſwordes, no not ſo much as daggers or whingears. His maieſty ſtayed an houre after his comming to the ſayd erles lodging in ſaint Iohnſtoun before his dinner came in. The longſomnes of preparing the ſame, and badnes of the chære, being excuſed vpon the ſodaine comming of his maieſtie vnlooked for there.

During which time, his maieſty enquired of maiſter Alexander, when it was time for him to goe to that priuate houſe, about that matter whereof he had informed him: who anſwered that all was ſure enough, but that there was no haſte yet for an houre, til the king had dined at leiſure. Praying his maieſty to leaue him, & not to be ſæne to round with him before his brother, who hauing miſſed him that morning, might thereupon ſuſpect what the matter ſhould meane. Therefore his maieſty addreſſed hym to the earle, and diſcourſed with him vpon ſundry matters, but could get no direct anſwer of him, but halfe words, and imperfect ſentences.

His maieſty being ſet downe to his dinner, the ſaid earle ſtode very penſiue, and with a deiected countenance at thend of his maieſties table, oft rounding ouer his ſhoulder, one while to one of his ſeruants, and another while to an other: and oft times went out and in to the chamber. Which forme of behauior he likewiſe kept before the kings ſitting downe to dinner: but without any welcoming of his maieſtie, or any other hearty forme of entertainement. The noblemen and gentlemen of the court that were with his maieſtie ſtanding about the table, & not deſired to dine (as the vſe is when his maieſty is once ſet downe, and his firſt ſeruice brought vp) vntill his maieſty had almoſt dined. At which time the earle conueyed them forth to their dinner, but ſate not down with them himſelfe (as the common maner is) but came back and ſtod ſilent at the end of the kings table, as he did before: which his maieſty perceiuing, beganne to entertaine the erle in a homely maner, wondring he had not remayned to dyne with his gheſts, and entertayne them there.

His maieſty being ready to riſe from the table, and al his ſeruants in the hall at their dinner, maſter Alexander ſtanding behinde his maieſties backe, pulled quietly vppon him, rounding in his maieſties eare, that it was time to goe, but that he would faine haue bene quit of the earle his brother, wiſhing the king to ſend him out into the hall, to entertayne his gheſts: whereupon the king called for drinke, and in a mery and homely maner ſayd to the earle, that although the Earle had ſeene the faſhion of entertainement in other countries, yet he would teach him the Scottiſh faſhion, ſeeing hee was a Scottiſh man: and therefore ſince he had forgotten to drinke to his maieſty, or ſit with his gheſts and entertayne them, his maieſty would drinke to him his owne welcome, deſiring him to take it forth and drinke to the reſt of the company, and in his maieſties name to make them welcome. Whereupon as he went forth, his maieſty roſe from the table, and deſired maiſter Alexander to bring ſir Thomas Erſkine

skine with him: who deſiring the king to goe forward with him, and promiſing that he ſhould make any one or two follow him that he pleaſed to call for, deſiring his maieſty to commaund publikely that none ſhould followe him. Thus the king accompanyed onely wyth the ſayd maiſter Alexander, comes forth of the chamber, paſſeth through the ende of the hall, where the noblemen and his maieſties ſeruantes were ſitting at theyr dinner, vp a turnepecke, and through three or foure chambers, the ſayde Maiſter Alexander euer looking behind him euery doore as he paſſed: and then with a more ſmiling countenaunce than he had all the day before, euer ſaying, he had hym ſure and ſafe enough kept: vntill at the laſt, his maieſty paſſing through three or foure ſundry houſes, and all the doores locked behinde hym, his maieſty entred into a little ſtudy, where he ſawe ſtanding wyth a very abaſed countenance, not a bondman, but a freeman, with a dagger at his girdle. But his maieſty had no ſoner entred into that little ſtudy, and maſter Alexander with him, but maiſter Alexander locked to the ſtudy doore behinde him, and at that inſtant changing his countenance, putting his hatts on his head, and drawing the dagger from that other mans girdle, held the poynt of it to the kings breaſt, auowing now that the king behoued to be in his will, and vſed as he liſt: ſwearing many bloody oths, that if the king cryed one word, or opened a window to loke out, that dagger ſhould preſently go to his heart: affyrming, that he was ſure, that now the kings conſcience was burthened for murthering his father. His maieſty wondring at ſo ſodayne an alteration, and ſtanding naked, wythout any kinde of armour but his hunting horne, which he had not gotten leyſure to lay from him, betwixt theſe two traytors which had conſpyred his life: the ſayd maiſter Alexander ſtanding (as is ſayde) wyth a dagger in his hand, and his ſworde at his ſide: but the other trembling and quaking, rather like one condemned, than an executioner of ſuch an enterpriſe.

His Maieſtie begunne then to dilate to the ſaide maiſter Alexander, how horrible a thing it was for him to meddle with his maieſties innocent bloud, aſſuring him it would not be left vnreuenged, ſince God had giuen him children & good ſubiects, and if they neither, yet God woulde raiſe vppe ſtocks and ſtones to puniſh ſo vile a déede.

Proteſting before God, that he had no burthen in his conſcience for the execution of his father: both in reſpect that at the time of his fathers execution, his maieſty was but a minor of age, and guyded at that time by a faction which ouerruled both his maieſtie, and the reſt of the cuntry: as alſo that whatſoeuer was done to his father, it was done by the ordinarie courſe of Law and Juſtice.

Appealing the ſaide maiſter Alexander vppon his conſcience, how well he at al times ſince had deſerued at the hands of al his race, not only hauing reſtored them to al their lands and dignities, but alſo in nouriſhing and bringing vp of two or thrée of his ſiſters, as it were in his owne boſome, by a continual attendance vpon his maieſties déereſt bedfelow in her priuy chamber.

Laying alſo before him the terrors of his conſcience, eſpecialy that he made profeſſion, according to his education, of ye ſame religion which his maieſtie had euer profeſſed: & namely, his maieſty remembred him of that holy man, maſter Robert Rollocke, whoſe ſcholler he was, aſſuring him that one day the ſaid maiſter Roberts ſoule would accuſe him, that he had neuer learned of him to practiſe ſuch vnnatural cruelty. His maieſty promiſing to him, on the word of a prince, that if he would ſpare his life, & ſuffer him to go out again, he would neuer reueale to any fleſh liuing, what was betwirt them at that time, nor neuer ſuffer him to incur any harm or puniſhment for the ſame.

But his maieſties feare was, that he could hope for no ſparing at his hands: hauing ſuch cruelti in his looks, & ſtanding ſo irreuerently couered with his hat on, which form of

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rigorous behauior, could prognoſticate nothing to his maieſty, but preſent extremity. But at his maieſties perſwaſiue language, he appeared to be ſomewhat amazed, and vncouering his head againe, ſwore and proteſted that his maieſties life ſhould be ſafe, if he would behaue hymſelfe quietly, wythout making noyſe or crying: and that he would onely bring in the earle his brother, to ſpeake wyth his Maieſty: whereupon his Maieſty enquiring what the earle would doe with him, ſince (if his maieſties life were ſafe according to promiſe) they could gayne little in keeping ſuch a priſoner. His anſwer only was, that he could tell his maieſty no more, but that his life ſhould be ſafe, in caſe he behaued hymſelfe quietly, the reſt, the earle his brother, whome he was going for, would tel his maieſty at his comming. With that, as he was going forth for his brother, as he affyrmed, he turnd hym about to the other man, ſaying theſe words vnto him, I make you here the kings keeper, till I come backe agayne, and ſee that you keepe him, vpon your owne perill: and therewithal ſayd to his Maieſty, you muſt content your ſelfe to haue this man now your keeper, vntill my comming backe.

With theſe wordes he paſſeth forth, locking the doore after him, leauing his maieſty with that man he found there before him. Of whom his maieſty then enquired, if he were appoynted to be the murtherer of him at that time, and howe farre he was vpon the counſell of that conſpiracie, whoſe anſwer with a trembling and aſtonished voyce and behauior, was, that as the Lord ſhould iudge him, he was neuer made acquaynted with that purpoſe, but that he was put in there perforce, and the doore lockt vpon him, a little ſpace before his Maieſties comming: as indeede all the time of the ſayd maſter Alexanders menacing his maieſty, he was euer trembling, requeſting him for Gods ſake, and with many other atteſtations, not to meddle with his maieſty, nor to do him any harme. But becauſe M. Alexander had before his going forth, made the king ſweare he ſhould not cry, nor open any

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window, his maieſty commanded the ſaid fellow to open the windowe on his right hand, which he readily did: ſo that although he was put in there to vſe violence on the king, yet God ſo turnd his heart, as he became a ſlaue to his priſoner.

While his maieſty was in this daungerous eſtate, and none of his owne ſeruantes nor traine knowing where hee was, and as his Maieſties trayne was ariſing in the Hall from theyr dinner, the earle of Gowrie being preſent wyth them, one of the earle of Gowries ſeruants comes haſtily in, aſſuring the Earle his maiſter, that his maieſty was horſed, and away through the Inche, which the Earle reporting to the noblemen, and the reſt of his maieſties traine that was there preſent, they al ruſhed out together at the gate in great haſte: and ſome of his maieſties ſeruants enquiring of the Porter when his maieſty went forth? The Porter affyrmed, that the king was not yet gone forth. Whereuppon the Earle loked very angerly vpon him, and ſayd he was but a liar: yet turning him to the Duke, and to the Earle of Marre, ſaid he ſhould preſently get them ſure word where his Maieſty was, and with that, ranne through the cloſe, and vppe the ſtaires. But his purpoſe indeede was, to ſpeake with his brother, as appeered very well by the circumſtance of time, his brother hauing at that ſame inſtant left the king in the litle ſtudy, and ranne downe the ſtaires in great haſte.

Immediatly after, the earle commeth backe, running agayne to the gate, where the noblemen and the reſt, were ſtanding in a maze, aſſuring them that the king was gone long ſince out at the backe gate, and if they haſted them not the ſoner, they would not ouertake him, and with that called for his horſe, whereat they ruſht all together out at the gate, and made toward the Inche, crying all for theyr horſes: paſſing all (as it was the prouidence of God) vnder one of the windowes of that ſtudy, wherein his maieſty was. To whom maiſter Alexander very ſpedily returned, and at his incomming to his Maieſty, caſting his handes abroade in a deſperate

perate manner, ſaide, he could not mend it, his Maieſtie behoued to die: and with that, offered a garter to bind his maieſties hands, with ſwearing, he behoued to be bound. His maieſtie at that word of binding, ſaid, he was borne a free K. and ſhould die a free king. Whereupon he griping his Maieſtie by the wreſt of the hand, to haue bound him, his Maieſtie releeued himſelfe ſodainely of his gripes: whereupon, as hee putte his right hand to his ſword, his maieſtie with his right hand ſeazed vpon both his hand and his ſworde, and with his left hand claſped him by the throat, like as he with his left hand claſpt the King by the throat, with two or three of his fingers in his Maieſties mouth, to haue ſtaied him rom crying. In this maner of wreſtling his Maieſtie perforce drew him to the window, which he had cauſed the other man before to open vnto him, and vnder the which was paſſing by at the ſame time the Kings traine, and the Earle of Gowrie with them, as is ſaide, and holding out the right ſide of his head and right elbow, cryed, that they were murthring him there in that treaſonable forme: whoſe voice being inſtantly heard and knowne by the Duke of Lennox, the Erle of Marre, and the reſt of his maieſties traine there: the ſaide Earle of Gowrie euer aſking what it meant: and neuer ſeeming any waies to haue ſeen his maieſtie, or heard his voyce, they all ruſhed in at the gate together, the Duke and the Earle of Marre running about to come by that paſſage his maieſtie came in at. But the Earle of Gowrie and his ſeruants made them for another way vp a quiet Turnepeck, which was euer condemned before, and was only then left open, (as appeared) for that purpoſe.

And in this meane time, his maieſtie, with ſtrugling and wraſtling with the ſaid maiſter Alexander, had brought him perforce out of that ſtudy, the doore whereof, for haſte, he had left open at his laſt in-comming, and his maieſtie hauing gotten, (with long ſtrugling) the ſayde maiſter Alexanders head vnder his arme, and himſelfe on his knees, his Ma. droue him backe perforce hard to the doore of the ſame

pike, and as his maieſtie was throwing his ſword out of his hand, thinking to haue ſtricken him therewith, and then to haue ſhotte him ouer the ſtaire, the other fellow ſtanding behinde the Kinges backe, and dooing nothing but trembling all the time, Sir Iohn Ramſay, not knowing what way firſt to enter, after he had heard the Kinges cry, by chance findes that Turn-pecke doore open, and folowing it vp to the head, enters in into the chamber, and findes his maieſtie and maiſter Alexander ſtrugling in that forme, as is before ſayde: and after he had twiſe or thriſe ſtricken maiſter Alexander with his dagger, the other man withdrew himſelfe, his maieſtie ſtill keeping his gripes, and holding him cloſe to him: immediatly thereafter he tooke the ſayd maiſter Alexander by the ſhoulders, and ſhotte him downe the ſtaire: who was no ſooner ſhotte out at the doore, but hee was met by Sir Thomas Erskine and Sir Hew Hereis, who there vpon the ſtaire ended him: the ſayde Sir Thomas Erskine being caſt behind the Duke and the Earle of Mar that ran about the other way, by the occaſion of his medling with the ſayde late Earle in the ſtreete, after the hearing of his maieſties crie. For vppon the hearing thereof, hee had claſped the Earle of Gowrie by the gorget, and caſting him vnder his feete, and wanting a dagger to haue ſtricken him with, the ſayd Earls men rid the Earle their maiſter out of his handes: whereby he was caſt behinde the reſt, as is ſayd: and miſſing the companie, and hearing the ſayde Sir Iohn Ramſayes voyce vpon the Turn-peck head, ran vp to the ſayd Chamber, and cryed vpon the ſayd Sir Hew Hereis and another ſeruant to folow him: where, meeting with the ſayd maiſter Alexander in the Turne-pecke, he ended him there, as is ſayd: the ſayd maiſter Alexander crying for his laſt wordes, Alas I had not the weight of it. But no ſooner could the ſayde Sir Thomas, Sir *Hew*, and another ſeruaunt winne into the Chamber where his maieſtie was, but that the ſayde Earle of Gowrie, before they could gette the doore ſhut, followed them in at the backe, hauing caſt him directly to come vp

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that priuy paſſage, as is before ſaid: who at his firſt entrie, hauing a drawne ſword in euery hand, and a ſteele bonet on his head, accompanied with ſeuen of his ſeruants, euery one of them hauing in like maner a drawn ſword, cried out with a great oath, that they ſhould al die as traitors. al the which time his maieſtie was ſtill in the chamber, who ſeeing the erle of Gowrie come in with his ſwords in his hands, ſought for maiſter Alexanders ſword which had fallen from him at his out-ſhutting at the doore, hauing no ſorte of weapons of his owne, as is ſayde: but then was ſhut backe by his owne ſeruants that were there, into the little ſtudie, and the doore ſhut vpon him: who hauing put his maiеſty in ſafety, re-encountred the ſaide Earle and his ſeruants, his maieſties ſeruants being onely in number foure, to wit, ſir Hugh Hereis, ſir Iohn Ramſay, and one Wilſon, a ſeruant of Iames Erskins, a brother of the ſayd ſir Thomas, the ſayde Earle hauing ſeuen of his owne ſeruantes with him: Yet it pleaſed God, after many ſtrokes on all handes, to giue his Maieſties ſeruants the victorie, the ſayde Earle of Gowrie being ſtriken dead with a ſtroke through the heart, which the ſaid ſir Iohn Ramſay gaue him, without once crying vpon God, and the reſt of his ſeruants dung ouer the ſtaires with many hurtes, as in like maner the ſaid ſir Thomas Erskin, ſir Hugh Hereis and ſir Iohn Ramſay, were al three very ſore hurt and woumded.

But al the time of this fight, the duke of Lennox, the Erle of Mar, & the reſt of his Maieſties traine, were ſtriking with great hammers at the vtter doore, whereby his maieſty paſſt vp to the chamber with the ſaid M. Alexander, which alſo he had lockt in his by-comming with his maieſtie to the chãber: but by reaſon of the ſtrength of the ſaid double doore, the whole wall being likewiſe of boordes, and yeelding with the ſtrokes: it did bide them the ſpace of halfe an houre & more, before they could get it broken & haue entreſſe: who hauing met with his Maieſty, found (beyond their expectation) his maieſtie deliuered from ſo imminent a perill, and the ſayde

late Earle the principall conſpirator lying dead at his Maieſties fæte. Immediatly thereafter his maieſty kneeling downe on his knæs, in the midſt of his owne ſeruants, and they all knæling rounde about him: his maieſty out of his owne mouth thanked God of that miraculous deliuerance and victory, aſſuring himſelfe, that God had preſerued him from ſo diſpaired a perill, for the perfiting of ſome greater work behind, to his glorie, & for procuring by him the weale of his people, that God had committed to his charge. After this the tumult of the towne hearing of the ſlaughter of the ſaid earle of Gowrie their Prouoſt, and not knowing the manner thereof, nor bæing on the counſell of his treaſonable attempt, continued for the ſpace of twoo or thræe houres thereafter, vntill his maieſtie by oft ſpeaking out to them at the windowes, and beckoning to them with his owne hand, pacifying them, cauſing the Bailies and the reſt of the honeſt men of the towne to be brought into the chamber, to whome hauing declared the whole forme of that ſtrange accident, he committed the houſe and bodies of the ſaid traitours brethren, to their kæping, vntill his maieſties further pleaſure were knowne. His maieſtie hauing before his parting out of that towne, cauſed to ſearch the ſaid earle of Gowries pockets, in caſe any letters that might further the diſcouery of that conſpiracy might bee founde therein. But nothing was founde in them, but a little cloſe parchment bag, full of Magicall characters, and wordes of inchantment, wherein it ſæmed that hee had put his confidence, thinking himſelfe neuer ſafe without them, and therefore euer caried them about with him: being alſo obſerued, that while they were vpon him, his wound whereof he died, bled not, but incontinent after the taking of them away, the blood guſhed out in great abundance, to the great admiration of all the beholders. An infamy which hath followed and ſpotted the race of this houſe, for many diſcents, as is notoriouſly knowne to the whole countrie. Thus the night was farre ſpent, being neere eight houres at euening be-

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fore his maieſtie could (for the great tumult that was in the towne) depart out of the ſame. But before his maieſty had ridden foure myles out of the ſame towardes Falkland, although the night was very darke and rainy: the whole way was clad with all ſort of people, both horſe and foote, meeting him with great ioy and acclamation. The frequencie and concourſe of perſons of all degrees to Falkland, the reſt of the weeke, and to Edenburgh the next, from all the quarters of the countrie, the teſtimony of the ſubiectes hearty affection and ioy for his maieſties deliuerie, expreſſed euery where, by ringing of bels, bonefiers, ſhoting off guns of all ſorts, both by ſea and land, &c. with all other things enſuing thereupon, I haue of ſet purpoſe pretermitted, as well knowne to all men, and impertinent to this diſcourſe: contenting my ſelfe with this plaine and ſimple narration: adding onely for explanation and confirmation thereof, the depoſitions of certaine perſons, who were either actors, and eie-witneſſes, or immediate hearers of thoſe thinges that they declare and teſtifie: wherein if the Reader ſhall find any thing differing from this narration, either in ſubſtance or circumſtance, he may vnderſtand the ſame to be vttered by the deponer in his owne behoſe, for obtaining of his maieſties princely grace and fauor.

Apud Falkland. 9. Auguſt. 1600.

In preſence of the Lord Chancellor, Lord Treaſurer, Lorde Secretary, Lord Comptroller, Lord Aduocate, the Lord Incheffray, and Sir George Home of Spot Knights.

IAmes Meinnis of Bogy of the age of 26. yeere or therby, ſworne & examined vpon the forme & maner of behauior of

late Iohn earle of Gowrie, the time of his being with him at Strabran, or if he had heard the ſayd earle make any motion of the treaſon intended againſt his royall maieſtie, depones, that he neither heard, nor ſaw, any appearance of any ſuch intention in the ſaid Earle.

Demaunded, if he was in any purpoſe with the ſaid Erle, againſt any matters of curioſitie: depones, that at their being in Strabran, ſome of their company found an Edder, which being killed, and knowledge thereof cemming to the Earle, the Earle ſayde to this deponer, Bogy, if the Edder had not bëene ſlaine, yë ſhould haue ſëene a good ſport: for I ſhould haue cauſed her ſtand ſtill, and ſhë ſhould not haue preſſed away, by pronouncing of an Hebrew word, which in Scottiſh is called Holineſſe, but the Hebrew word the deponer remembers not of: and that the Earle ſayde hë had put the ſame in practiſe oft before. And this deponer enquiring of the earle where he got the Hebrew word, the earle anſwered, in a Cabbaliſt of the Iewes, and that it was by Tradition: and the deponer inquiring what a Cabbaliſt meaned: The Earle anſwered, it was ſome wordes which the Iewes had by Tradition, which words were ſpoken by God to Adam in Paradiſe, and therefore were of greater effecacie and force than any wordes which were excogitate ſince by Prophets and Apoſtles. The deponer inquiring if there were no more requiſite but the word. The Earle anſwered, that a firme faith in God was requiſite and neceſſary: and that this was no matter of maruel amongſt ſchollers, but that al theſe things were naturall. And that the earle ſhewed to this deponer, that he had ſpoken with a man in Italie, and firſt hearing, by report, that he was a Nigromancer, and thereafter being informed that he was a very learned man, and a dëep Theologue, he entred in further dealing with him againſt the curioſitie of nature.

Depones further, that the ſaide Earle reported to him, that he being at muſicke, he fell in company with an other man, who ſtaring in the Earles face, ſpake to the reſt of the com-

companie thinges of him, which he could neuer attaine vnto, nor bee worthy of: and therefore that the Earle reproached him, and desired him to forbeare these speeches. And that he met again with the said man in a like company, who did begin with the same language which hee had spoken before: and that the Earle sayd to him, my friend, in case yée will not holde your peace from speaking lies of mée, I will make you hold your peace by speaking truth of you, and said vnto him within such a space hee should be hanged for such a crime: and so it came to passe. This deponer inquiring of the Earle who told him that, he answered merrily, that he spake it by guesse, and it fell out so. And that the Earle sayd further, that it was nothing to make an hearbe flesh which would dissolue in flies: and that likewise it was possible that the seed of man and woman, might be brought to perfection otherwise then by the matrix of the woman: and that this deponer counselled the Earle to beware with whom hee did communicate such speeches: who answered, that hee would speake them to none, but to great schollers, and that he would not haue spoken them to this deponer, if he had not knowne him to bee a fauorer of him, and a friend of his house, and would not reueale the same againe, seeing hee knewe they would be euill interpreted amongst the common sorte.

Sic ſubſcribitur. I. Weimys of Bogie.

Apud Falkland. 20. *Auguſt.* 1600.

In preſence of the Lordes Chancellour, Treaſurer, Aduocate: Sir George Home of Spot, Sir Robert Meluill, and Sir Iames Meluill Knights.

MAiſter William Rynd, ſworne and examined, and demaunded where he firſt did ſée the Characters which were found vppon my Lord: deponeſ, that he hauing remained a ſpace in Venice,

nice, at his returning to Padua, did find in my Lordes pocket, the characters which were found vpon him at his death: and the deponer enquyring of my lord, where he had gotten them, my Lord answered, that by chance he had copied them himselfe: and that the deponer knowes that the Characters in latine are my Lords owne hand-writing, but he knowes not if the hebrew characters were written by my Lord. Depones further, that when my lord would change his clothes, the deponer would take the characters out of my Lords pocket, and would say to my Lord, Wherefore serues these: and my Lord would answer, Can ye not let them be: they do you no euill. And further, the deponer declares, that sometimes my Lord would forget them, vntil he were out of his chamber, and would turne backe, as he were in an anger, vntil hee had found them, and put them in his owne pocket: Depones further, that he was sundry tymes purposed to haue burnt the characters, were it not that he feared my Lordes wrath and anger: seeing when the Deponer would purposly leaue them sometimes out of my Lordes pocket, my Lorde would be in such an anger with the Deponer, that for a certayne space he woulde not speake with hym, nor coulde not finde his good countenaunce. And that (to this deponers opinion) my Lord would neuer be content to want the characters of hymselfe from the first time that the deponer salue them in Padua, to the houre of my Lords death.

Being demaunded for what cause my Lord kept the characters so well, depones, that to his opinion, it was for no good, because he heard, that in those partes, where my Lord was, they would giue sundry folkes brœues.

Depones further, that maister Patricke Galloway lette this deponer see the characters, since that hee came to this towne of Falkland, and that he knowes them to be the very same characters which my Lord had. Depones also, that on monday the fourth of August, the maister, Andrew Henderson, & the deponer remained in my lords chãber til about ten houres at euen, & after a long conference betwixt the lord

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and the maſter, my Lord called for Andrew Henderſon, & after ſome ſpæches with him, diſmiſſed them.

Denies that he knew of the maſters or Andrew Hendersons riding to Falkland, and after Andrewes returne from Falkland vpon the morrow, howbeit he did ſée him boted, yet he knew not that he was come from Falkland.

Depones that my lord being at dinner when the Maſter came in, the deponer heard my Lord ſay to the Maſter, is the King in the Inche? and with that he did riſe, and ſaid, let vs goe. But the deponer knowes not what the Maiſter ſaid to my Lord.

Being demaunded if he did ſée any kind of armour or weapons, except ſwords, in the Kings companie, depones that he did ſée none.

It being demaunded how the deponer was ſatiſfied with my lords anſwer made to him, concerning the Kings comming to ſaint Iohnſtoun, ſaying that hee knewe not how he came: declares that he thought that my Lord had diſſembled with him, and that he behoued to haue knowne it, ſeeing his brother was come with his Maieſtie before that he demanded of him, and that he had conferred with my Lords priuily.

Depones that he knew not that the maſter was ridden to Falkland, vntil after his maieſties comming to ſaint Iohnſtoun, that Andrew Ruthwen told him, becauſe the deponer inquired of Andrew Ruthwen where the maſter and he had bin, and that Andrew anſwered, they had bæn in Falkland: & that the maſter hauing ſpoken with the King, his maieſty came forward with them, and that this conference betwixt the deponer and Andrew Ruthwen was in the yard when my lord was there. And Andrew Ruthwen ſhewed to the deponer, that Andrew Henderſoun was directed by the maſter, to ſhew my lord, that his maieſtie was comming.

Depones alſo, that in his opinion, the maſter could not haue drawne the King to my Lordes houſe, without my Lordes knowledge: and that when hee heard the tumult,

he was reſolued in his heart the maiſter had done his maieſty wrong, and that no true chriſtian can thinke otherwiſe, but that it was an high treaſon, attempted againſt his highneſſe by the maiſter and the Lord.

Depones alſo, that to his opinion, the Kings whole company was within a dozen of men.

Sic ſubſcribitur. *M.W.Rynd.*

22. Auguſt. 1600.

Maiſter William Rind ſwoꝛne and re-examined, if euer he heard the Earle of Gowrie vtter his opinion, anent the duetie of a wiſe man, in the execution of an high enterpꝛiſe: declares, that being out of the countrey, he had diuerſe times heard him reaſon in that matter, and that he was euer of that opinion, that he was not a wiſe man, that hauing intended the execution of an high and dangerous purpoſe, communicate the ſame to any but to himſelfe, becauſe keeping it to himſelfe, it could not be diſcouered noꝛ diſappointed: which the deponer declared beſoꝛe vnrequired to the Controller, and maiſter William Cowper miniſter at Perth: and hearing the depoſitions of Andrew Henderſoun read, and being enquired vpon his conſcience, what he thought of the fact that was committed againſt his maieſtie, declares, that vpon his ſaluation, that he beleeues Andrew Henderſon has declared the circumſtances truly.

Sic ſubſcribitur. *M.W.Rynd.*

Apud Falkland. 20. *Auguſt.* 1600.

In preſence of the Lordes Chancellour, Treaſurer, Aduocat, Controller, and ſir George Home of Spot, ſir Iames Meluil Knights.

ANdrew Henderſoun ſwoꝛne and examined, & demanded, what purpoſe was betwixt him & the erle of Gowrie,

rie, vpon monday at night the fourth of this inſtant in the ſaid Earles chamber: depones, that the earle inquired of him what he would be doing vpon the morne, and he anſwered that he was to ride to Ruthwen: the earle ſaid to him, you muſt ride to Falkland with maſter Alexander my brother, and when he directs you backe, ſee that ye returne with all diligence, if he ſend a letter or any other aduertiſement with you.

Depones, that the maſter directed him to ſend for Andrew Ruthwen to be in readineſſe, to ride with them the morrow at foure houres in the morning.

Declares, that they comming to Falkland about ſeuen houres in the morning, the maſter ſtaied in a lodging beſide the Pallace, and directed the deponer, to ſee what the king was doing, and the deponer finding his maieſtie in the cloſe comming forth, he paſſt backe, and told the maſter, who immediatly addreſſed himſelfe to his Highneſſe, and ſpake with his maieſtie a good ſpace beneth the Equirie: and after his maieſtie was on horſe backe, the Maiſter commeth to the Deponer, and commaunds him to fetch their horſes, and bade him haſte him, as he loued my Lordes honour and his, and aduertiſe my Lord, that his Maieſtie and he would be there incontinent, and that his maieſtie would be quiet: and the deponer inquiring of the maſter if he ſhould go preſently, he did bid him leape on and follow him, and not to goe away vntil he ſpake with the King: and the maiſter hauing ſpoken with the King, at a breach of the Park wal, he turned backe and bade the deponer ride away, and the deponer making his returne in al poſſible haſte to Saint Iohnſtoun, he found my lord in his chamber about ten houres, who left the companie he was ſpeaking with, and came to the deponer, and aſked, hath my brother ſent a letter with you: the deponer anſwered, no: but they will be al here incontinent, and bade the deponer deſire my lord, to cauſe prepare the dinner. Imediatly therafter, my lord took the deponer to the cabinet, & aſked at him, how his maieſty took with ȳ maſter his brother: ȳ de-

poner anſwered very well, and that his Maieſtie laide his hand ouer the maiſters ſhoulder. Thereafter my Lord enquired if there were many at the hunting with the King: the deponer anſwered, that he toke no heede, but they who were accuſtomed to ride with his maieſtie, and ſome Engliſhmen were there: and that my Lorde inquired what ſpeciall men were with his maieſtie, and that the deponer anſwered, he did ſée none but my Lord Duke. And within an houre thereafter, when the deponer came in from his owne houſe, the Earle bade him putte on his ſecret and plaite-ſleeues, for hee had an hy-land man to take, which the deponer did incontinent: and about twelue houres, when the Deponer was going out to his owne houſe to his dinner, the ſteward came to him and told him, that George Cragingelt, was not wel, and was laine downe, deſired him to tarry and take vp my Lordes dinner: and about halfe an houre after twelue, my Lord commanded him to take vp the firſt ſeruice. And when the deponer was commaunded to take vp the ſecond ſeruice, the maiſter and William Blaire came into the Hall to my Lord.

The deponer remembreth himſelfe, that Andrew Ruthwen came before the maiſter a certain ſpace, and ſpake with my Lorde quietly at the table, but heard not the particular purpoſe that was amongſt them. And ſo ſone as the maiſter came to the Hall, my Lord and the whole company roſe from the table: and the deponer hearing the noyſe of their forthgoing, ſuppoſed they were going to make breakes for Maconilduy: and the Deponer ſent his boy for his gantlet and ſteile-bonnet: and ſeeing my Lorde paſſe to the Inſhe and not to the ſhoe gate, the deponer did caſt the gauntlet in the Pantry, and cauſed his boy to take his ſteele-bonnet to his owne houſe: and he followed my Lord to the Inſhe, and returning backe with his Maieſtie to the lodging, beeing directed to get drinke. And the maiſter came to the deponer, and did bid him cauſe maiſter William Rinde to ſende him vp the keye of the Galerie chamber, who paſt vp & deliuered

the

the key to the maiſter: and immediatly my Lorde followed vp, and did ſpeake with the maiſter, and came down againe, and directed maiſter Thomas Cranſtone to the deponer, to come to his Lordſhip in his Maieſties chamber. And that my Lord directed him to go vp to the Gallery to his brother: and immediatly my Lord followed vp, and commanded the deponer to bide there with his brother, and to do any thing that he bade him: The deponer enquired at the maiſter what haue ye to do ſir? the maiſter anſwered, ye muſt go in heere, and tarry vntill I come backe, for I will take the key with me. So he locked the deponer in the round within the chamber, and toke the key with him. Shortly thereafter, the maiſter returned, and the Kings Maieſtie with him to the ſaid cabinet in the round: and the maiſter opening the doore, entered with the King into the ſaid rounde: and at his verie entrie couering his head, pulled out the deponers dagger, and held the ſame to his Maieſties breaſt, ſaying: Remember ye of my fathers murther? yee ſhall now die for it: and minting to his Highnes heart with the dagger, the deponer threw the ſame out of the maiſters hand: and ſwore, that as God ſhall iudge his ſoule, if the maiſter had retained the dagger in his hand the ſpace that a man may goe fiue ſteps, he would haue ſtricken the King to the hiltes with it: but wanting the dagger, and the Kinges maieſty giuing him a gentle anſwere, he ſaid to the kinges maieſty with abhominable oathes, that if he would keepe ſilence, nothing ſhoulde aile him, if he would make ſuch promiſe to his brother, as they would craue of him: and the kinges maieſty inquiring what promiſe they would craue: he anſwered that he would bring his brother. So he goes forth, and lockes the doore of the round vpon his maieſty and the deponer: hauing firſt taken oath of the king that he ſhould not crie, nor open the windowe.

And his maieſty inquiring of the deponer what he was? he anſwered, a ſeruant of my Lords. And his maieſty aſking of the deponer, if my Lord would doe any euill to him? the

deponer anſwerd, as God ſhal iudge my ſoul, I ſhal die firſt. And the deponer preſſing to haue opened the windoe, the M. entred, and ſaid: Sir, there is no remedie, By God you muſt die: and hauing a loſe garter in his hand, preſſed to haue bound his maieſties hands, and the deponer pulled the garter out of maiſter Alexander his hand. And then the Maiſter did put one of his hands in his Maieſties mouth, to haue ſtayed him to ſpeake, and helde his other arme about his Highneſſe necke: and that this deponer pulled the maiſters hand from his highneſſe mouth, and opened the windowe: and then his Maieſtie cryed out thereat, whereuppon his Highneſſe ſeruant came in at the gate, and this deponer did runne and open the doore of the Turnepecke head, whereat Iohn Ramſay entered: and the deponer ſtode in the Chamber vntill he did ſée Iohn Ramſay giue the maiſter a ſtroke: and thereafter priuily conueyed himſelfe downe the Turnepecke to his owne houſe: and the deponers wife enquiring of him, what the fray meaned: the deponer anſwered, that the kings maieſtie would haue béene twice ſticked, had not hée releéued him.

Sic ſubſcribitur Andrew Henderſon
with my hand.

Further

Further, the ſaide Andrew Henderſoun Depones, that after his returning from Falkland on the fift of this inſtant, Maiſter Iohn Montcrief enquiring of him where hee had beene: He anſwered, that he had beene beyond the bridge of Erne, and ſayes that he gaue that anſwer to maiſter Iohn, becauſe my Lord commaunded him to let no man know that he was to ride to Falkland: and that my Lordes direction to him, was, to come backe with his brother maiſter Alexanders anſwere, and to leaue Andrew Ruthwen to awaite vpon the maiſter.

Sic ſubſcribitur Andrew Henderſoun
with my hand.

Further, the ſayde Andrew Henderſon Depones, that when he had taken the maiſters hand out of the Kinges maieſties mouth, and was opening the windoe, Maiſter Alexander ſayde to him, wilt thou not helpe: Woe betyde thee, thou wilt make vs all die.

Sic ſubſcribitur Andrew Henderſoun
with my hand.

FINIS.

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